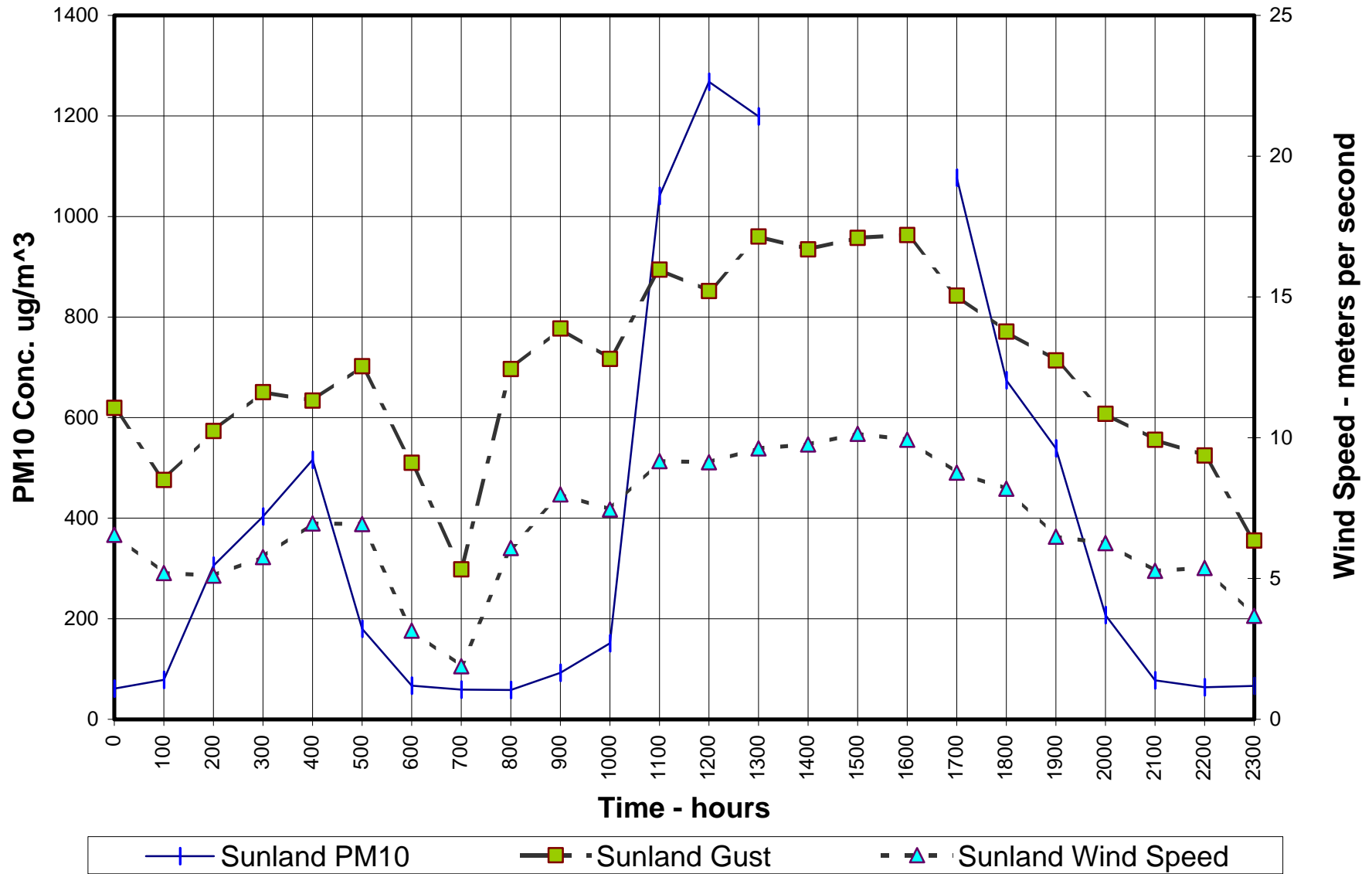


APPENDIX 3

Documentation for Exceedance 14-Mar-02, Sunland Park

- A) Hourly PM₁₀ and Wind Speed at Sunland Park City Yards, 14-Mar-02**
- B) "Gusts kill power, cancel flight", El Paso Times, March 15, 2002**

March 14, 2002 - Sunland Park



Borderland Friday, March 15, 2002

Gusts kill power, cancel flight

Louie Gilot and Laura Cruz
El Paso Times

A dust storm with gusts of nearly 50 mph choked the El Paso area on Thursday, contributing to isolated power outages and even the cancellation of a flight carrying a high-profile visitor from Mexico.

The fire and police departments didn't report any incidents caused by the storm, but El Paso Electric had several isolated outages affecting parts of Northeast El Paso and a few hundred people Downtown, where metallic tape got wrapped around a power line.

On the East Side, a broken tree branch cut off power to a house on Santa Clara Court, El Paso Electric spokeswoman Teresa Souza said.

Visibility was reduced to 1 1/2 miles at El Paso International Airport because of dry dust mixing in the air. Patricia Martinez, the wife of Chihuahua Gov. Patricio Martinez, had to postpone her visit to El Paso on Thursday when her flight from Mexico was canceled because of high winds, city officials said.

But Clint Newsome of El Paso lucked out. Newsome, the owner of Papa's Cantina in West El Paso, said he'd rather not have dust sweep through the giant tent he is erecting at 400 W. Paisano for his St. Patrick's Day celebration tonight and Saturday.

The wind is likely to take a hiatus today, thanks to colder temperatures, but could pick up again Monday, forecasters said.

"We've been saying our prayers," Newsome said. "If it's blowing, people don't feel very comfortable under a tent."

The celebration is expected to draw 5,000 to 6,000.

A weak cold front was expected to drag the high temperature down from Thursday's 76 degrees to the upper 60s today.

Today "looks like a pleasant day," said Tom Bird of the National Weather Service in Santa Teresa.

Mark Lambie / El Paso Times

Gabriela Muzquiz of New York City snuggled against her boyfriend, Giovanni Fanduiz, on Thursday in Downtown El Paso to avoid blowing dust. Gusts, peaking at 47 mph, caused low visibility and some power outages and forced at least one flight to be canceled.

And Saturday's weather will mimic today's, he said. Sunday's temperatures are expected to rise to the 70s, and the winds are to pick up to 15 to 25 mph.

Thursday's blustery weather was caused by an upper-level disturbance that moved through the area with southwest winds of 20 to 25 mph and a peak gust of 47 mph.

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